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Home Laundering

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HOME LAUNDERING

by

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HOME LAUNDERING

PROGRAM:

1. Call to order by chairman.
2. Song.
3. Roll call answered by giving some helpful laundry suggestion.
4. Minutes of last meeting.
5. Report of committees.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.
8. Demonstration---Home Laundering.
9. Adjournment.
10. Social hour.

SUGGESTIONS FOR DEMONSTRATION:

There is enough subject matter on Home Laundering for four demonstrations:

No. 1 may be on Laundry Equipment and Method of Laundering.

No. 2 Removal of Stains.

No. 3 Bluings, kinds and tests.
Starch and starching.

No. 4 Soap and soap making.

Divide the work and explaining of the demonstration about equally between the demonstrators.
Supply the equipment necessary for the demonstrations.
At the close of the demonstration give out literature on Home Laundering.

Results of the demonstrations should be:

1. A better equipped laundry.
2. Better methods of laundering.
3. Better knowledge of bluings, tinting, starches, soaps and stain removers.

DISCUSSION:

DEMONSTRATION No. 1.

A Well Equipped Laundry.

The drudgery of laundering may be largely eliminated if we have a well equipped room for this purpose where all supplies may be kept. This room may be off the kitchen, in the basement, or in an adjoining building. There should be a laundry stove, running water and a drain to carry off the waste water. Lifting and carrying water makes wash day one of drudgery. A force pump run by gasoline engine, windmill, or hand will convey the water to a storage tank or barrel, where at least enough may be stored for wash day. A rubber hose, six to eight feet long, connected with the water faucet may be used to bring the water to the tubs and boiler. This hose may also be used to siphon the water out. To do this, close one end of the tube, fill with water and close the other end by pressing with the finger. Insert one end in the tub, keeping the tube under water and place the other

end in the drain and remove the pressure. The water will then siphon through the tube.

A stove should be provided for heating the water, making starch, and heating irons. At least two tubs are needed and should be placed at a height convenient for the worker. This will range from thirty-six to forty inches from the floor to the top of the tub. Tubs arranged in this way will save a lame back and undue muscle strain.

A washing machine is a great convenience and a power machine is a great labor saver. There are many good makes of machines and it should be easy to select the one that meets your need.

Wringers save labor and wear on the clothes. Any type will do good work if adjusted to the thickness of the clothes to be wrung. Unscrew the wringer when through with it so as to relieve pressure on the rolls.

Dry the clothes out in the air and sunshine when the weather permits. It is well to have a clothes line in the laundry for stormy days or for drying flannels or delicate colors which will be affected by strong sunlight.

There should be a cupboard where soap, washing powder, soap solutions, starches, stain removers, bluing, tints, supplies for setting colors, pan for making starch, wax, spoon, knife, measuring cup, irons and stand may be kept. If the supplies are kept in one place a great deal of time and labor may be saved.

A built-in ironing board saves much lifting. It should be substantially built and at the right height for convenience and comfort.

A low stand on wheels or casters may be used to move the basket of clothes about the laundry.

METHODS OF LAUNDERING:

The preliminary work of laundering should include mending, removal of stains, setting colors and sorting. If garments are not mended before laundering the holes become larger. Stains which will not come out in the washing should be removed before as soap and heat set many stains.

Coffee and fruit stains may be removed with boiling water. Spread stained part over a bowl and pour boiling water from a height so as to strike the stain with force. Borax will often remove stubborn stains.

A fresh grass stain may be removed by washing in cold water. For an old grass stain use Javelle Water.

Ink and iron rust may be removed with salt and lemon applied and laid in the hot sun. Ink will often come out by soaking in milk.

Medicine stains may be removed with alcohol.

Mildew will wash out easily in cold water if the stain is fresh and has not attacked the fiber. Otherwise use Javelle Water and then wash in hot suds. Often it may be removed by soaking over night in sweet or sour milk.

Scorch on cotton or linen may be removed by hanging in the sunshine or using lemon and salt and hanging in the sunshine.

Blood or egg stain may be removed by washing in cold water or with naptha soap and warm water. Hot water sets the stain.

Cream and meat juice may be removed by washing in warm water with naptha soap.

Fresh paint stains on washable material are often removed with soap and water. It is often desirable to soften an old paint stain with lard and then use gasoline and turpentine.

The process may have to be repeated before the stain is removed.

To remove the stains from white goods, soak the spot in equal parts of Javelle Water and hot water until the stain disappears. Rinse thoroughly in several waters and finally in diluted ammonia (about 1 tablespoonful of ammonia to two quarts of water). Do not use Javelle Water on colored clothes as it will remove the color. If the garment is left soaking in Javelle Water too long it will injure the fiber.

Javelle Water.

1 lb. washing soda	2 qts. cold water
1 qt. boiling water	½ lb. chloride of lime

Put the soda in an agate pan and add the boiling water. Mix the lime in cold water and let settle. Pour the clear liquid into the dissolved soda. Bottle, label, and keep in a dark place.

DEMONSTRATION No. 2.

Removal of Stains.

(Circular and suggestions will be furnished)

Color setting:

Yellow, tan and brown---use 1 cupful of vinegar to 1 gallon of water.

Blue, lavendar and green---use 1 ounce of alum to 1 gallon of water.

Blue, red, pink and black---use 2 cupfuls of salt to 1 gallon of water.

Sorting:

First sort the white from the colored things and then the white clothes according to the amount of soil. If table linen, linen scarfs, bedding and linen towels are washed first, they may be drying while the other things are being washed. The body linen should be then washed and the colored garments last.

Wool, silk and colored materials require more care in laundering than white or linen material.

Soaking helps to loosen the dirt. Use soft water and a good soap. Hard water may be softened by using a solution of sal-soda. For this solution use---1 lb. of sal-soda to 1 qt. of water. Use 2 tablespoonfuls of this solution to 1 gallon of

water. For colored materials, silk or wool, use 1 tablespoonful of borax to each gallon of water. Wash in warm soap water, washing the least soiled garments first.

Boiling helps to sterilize and whiten garments. Place clothes in boiler of cold soft water to which has been added finely shaved soap or soap powder, and bring to a boil. Boil from five to ten minutes only as long boiling makes clothes yellow.

Rinse thoroughly and blue. Starch if desired. Be sure the clothes line is clean and hang the clothes in the sunlight, hanging articles of the same kind together. Colored garments should be hung in the shade. Do not hang clothes in a strong wind as it tears and stretches the material.

When the clothes are dry, shake, fold loosely and place in a basket.

Clothes should be sprinkled and allowed to stand for a few hours so that the moisture will become evenly distributed. The garments will then iron easily.

Iron embroidery or lace on the wrong side on a heavy padding so that the design will stand out plainly. Table linen should be ironed perfectly dry to give a gloss. Garments should be ironed on lengthwise or crosswise fold to prevent stretching of material.

Fold garments evenly and put away when thoroughly dry.

Wool should be washed quickly and separately from other garments. Use soft tepid water and dissolved soap. If soap is rubbed on wool it will be harsh. Do not rub wool but squeeze gently. Rinse in water the same temperature as that the garment was washed in, to prevent shrinking. Dry quickly and press on the wrong side.

Silks do not shrirk like woolens but care is necessary in washing so that the fiber is not destroyed. Use lukewarm soapy water and squeeze gently, using a mild soap. Rinse carefully in lukewarm water and when pressing use a iron that is not hot.

DEMONSTRATION No. 3.

Bluings---Starches

Bluings are used to counteract the yellow color in clothes which may be caused by insufficient rinsing or lack of sunshine when drying. There are four kinds of bluings,

Indigo, Prussian, Ultramine and Analine. In order to get the best results when washing one should know their bluing. The amount used will depend upon the kind of bluing and the weave of the material. Open weave, such as toweling and table linen, take bluing readily and require a light shade, while closely woven materials, such as sheets and pillow cases, require a deeper shade.

Indigo was formerly derived from the Indigo plant but is now a chemical product. Altho the first bluing used, it is seldom used now. It comes in lumps and powder, is very darkin color and contains no iron. It often settles on the clothes as it is insoluble.

Prussian bluing usually comes in liquid form and is easy to use. It is the bluing most generally used in the homes. It is greenish blue in color, and contains a salt of iron which turns to iron rust in the presence of the alkali from the soap. It is necessary to thoroughly rinse the clothes of all alkali to prevent the formation of iron rust when the heat of the iron is applied.

Ultramine bluing usually comes in the ball or black form and occasionally in powder form. It is now a chemical product. It contains a large amount of clay. This should be remembered in considering the cost. It is a good color, contains no iron and is insoluble.

Analine is a coal tar product. It comes in crystals and powder form and is a very strong bluing. It is hard to wash out or bleach out if too much is used. Less is required than any other bluing. It is necessary to have all the alkali rinsed out of the clothes if the color is to set well. It is soluble and produces no iron spots. It is generally used in large laundries and not for home use.

Before putting clothes in bluing water try out a white cloth to see if the shade is the one you desired. A tint is all that is necessary.

Powdered bluing should be made into a liquid before applying to the rinse water. Lumps or balls should be tied in a cloth and dipped in the water.

Shake clothes carefully and put in only a few at a time to avoid streaking.

To test bluing:

Heat a little bluing with a strong solution of washing powder and if it turns a yellowish red and iron rust is precipitated it is Prussian bluing.

Let bluing stand for sometime in a bottle. If it is Ultramine bluing the blue will settle to the bottom.

Tints may be obtained for other shades besides blue. An ecru, often desired for curtains, may be obtained from various dyes bought at drug stores. (Use some of these in your demonstration if possible).

Starch----Starching.

Starch is used to give dressing to the material and make it appear as near like new as possible. To be able to starch

all kinds of material well is an art.

There are a number of kinds of starch, made from corn, wheat, rice, and a combination of corn, wheat and rice. Borax and paraffin are often added. Laundry starch is usually a combination. It is the viscosity, which means the stickiness or tenacity of the starch, which makes it desirable as a dressing. Corn has the greatest viscosity, but wheat is more pliable. Rice has the least viscosity.

To make a nice smooth starch first mix the starch with a small quantity of cold water. After it is thoroughly mixed add the desired amount of boiling water. It must be stirred vigorously while adding the boiling water as then the starch grains burst and this makes a thickened mass. It should be boiled for about five minutes to be sure it is thoroughly cooked. If starch has been properly cooked it will not stick to the iron. A hot iron is required for starched clothes.

A thick starch is made by using one gallon of water with either $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cupful of corn starch or $1\frac{1}{4}$ cupfuls of wheat or rice starch. This may be used for collars, cuffs, uniforms, etc.

For a medium starch use one half the amount of starch and the same amount of water as for thick starch. This starch may be used for lingerie.

A thin starch is made by using one gallon of water and either two tablespoonfuls of corn starch of $\frac{1}{4}$ cupful of wheat or rice starch. Thin starch should be used for such things as curtains and fine pieces. A good rice starch may be made by cooking $\frac{1}{4}$ cupful of rice in one quart of water. Strain and add another quart of water.

Use starch while warm as when cool it becomes lumpy.

Raw starch has not as many uses as the other starches, but is used for men's collars. Use a starch prepared for the purpose and follow instructions to get best results.

Borax, alum and paraffin improve starch. Two teaspoonfuls of borax or alum added to a gallon of starch will increase the gloss and pliability and improve the color. Two teaspoonfuls of paraffin or lard will prevent the starch sticking to the iron.

Bluing or other tints may be added to the starch.

In starching organdie very good results will be obtained if two teaspoonfuls of gumarabic are dissolved in one quart of hot water.

For cretonne use bran in place of soap. If rinsed in bran water there will be enough starch to give it its original stiffness.

DEMONSTRATION No. 4.

Soap----Soap Making.

Someone has said that the civilization of a country is known by its soap bill.

Soap is not only a cleaner but also a disinfectant. It is made by combining animal or vegetable fats with an alkali such as soda or potash lye. Use only clean fats. For general laundry work we should use a mild soap and by that we mean a soap without too much alkali.

If water is very hard it may be softened by using washing soda or borax. It may sometimes be softened by boiling and being allowed to stand before using.

To soften with washing soda, fill a jar with boiling water and put in as much of the soda crystals as the water will dissolve. Use from ½ cup to a cupful of the soda solution to a tub of water.

To soften with borax dissolve one tablespoonful of borax in water and add this amount to each gallon of water.

If a softener is used so much soap will not be needed.

Homemade Soap----Cornell Bulletin.

1 lb. can of lye, dissolved in 3 pints of cold water.
5 lbs. of fat, melted.
1½ tablespoonfuls of borax.
½ cupful of ammonia, added to the lye mixture when cold.

When the lye mixture is cooled, add it to the fat. Stir until as thick as honey then pour into molds. Set away to harden.

N. B. Stir lye mixture with stick as lye irritates the hands. It is well to put a paper bag over the hand while stirring.

Do not use tin or aluminum utensils for making soap. All soap should stand in a moderately warm temperature until hard and then it may be cut into cakes. Homemade soap should stand for several weeks before using. The water should have time to evaporate so that the soap will not dissolve so rapidly.

Washing powder is a combination of soap and washing soda. It often contains a large proportion of washing soda which makes it hard on the clothes.

Soap flakes usually are of good quality and as they dissolve readily are convenient to use.

Soap solution: A good way to use small pieces of soap. Shave the soap and add water and heat gradually until dissolved. Use enough to make a good sud.

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